ABSTRACT

In a discharge bulb, an arc tube is fixed and held by an insulating base in the rear side such that the arc tube elongates forward. In the arc tube, an enclosed space is formed by sealing both ends of a straight cylindrical ceramic light emitting tube, electrodes are opposingly disposed therein, and the enclosed space is filled with a light emitting substance and starting rare gas. A light blocking film is disposed in part of a glass shroud surrounding the arc tube that corresponds to a sealed rear portion. To design effective reflecting surfaces, a rectangular light source image is projected onto a luminous distribution screen. Particularly, an upper end portion close to a horizontal cutoff line in the rectangular light source image projected in the vertical direction is clear. Even when the radially projected light source image approaches the elbow portion, a glare-free luminous distribution is formed.